

# Algorithms

## Chapter 1: Algorithm Analysis

**GATE CS PYQ**  
**Solved by Monalisa**

## Section 5: Algorithms

- Searching, sorting, hashing. Asymptotic worst case time and space complexity. Algorithm design techniques : greedy, dynamic programming and divide-and-conquer . Graph traversals, minimum spanning trees, shortest paths

- **Chapter 1: Algorithm Analysis:-**Algorithm intro , Order of growth ,Asymptotic notation, Time complexity, space complexity, Analysis of Recursive & non recursive program, Master theorem ]

- **Chapter 2: Brute Force:-**Sequential search, Selection Sort and Bubble Sort , Radix sort, Depth first Search and Breadth First Search.

- **Chapter 3: Decrease and Conquer :-** Insertion Sort, Topological sort, Binary Search .

- **Chapter 4: Divide and conquer:-**Min max problem , matrix multiplication ,Merge sort ,Quick Sort , Binary Tree Traversals and Related Properties .

- **Chapter 5: Transform and conquer:-** Heaps and Heap sort, Balanced Search Trees.

- **Chapter 6: Greedy Method:-**knapsack problem , Job Assignment problem, Optimal merge, Hoffman Coding, minimum spanning trees, Dijkstra's Algorithm.

- **Chapter 7: Dynamic Programming:-**The Bellman-Ford algorithm ,Warshall's and Floyd's Algorithm ,Rod cutting, Matrix-chain multiplication ,Longest common subsequence ,Optimal binary search trees

- **Chapter 8: Hashing.**

- **Reference :** Introduction to Algorithms by Thomas H. Cormen

- Introduction to the Design and Analysis of Algorithms, by Anany Levitin

- My Note

• **GATE CS 2010,Q12:** Two alternative packages A and B are available for processing a database having  $10^k$  records. Package A requires  $0.0001n^2$  time units and package B requires  $10n\log_{10}n$  time units to process  $n$  records. What is the smallest value of  $k$  for which package B will be preferred over A?

• (A) 12                      (B) 10                      (C) 6                      (D) 5

•  $B \leq A$

•  $10n \log_{10}n \leq 0.0001n^2$

• Given  $n = 10^k$  records.

•  $\Rightarrow 10 \times (10^k) \log_{10} 10^k \leq 0.0001 (10^k)^2$

•  $\Rightarrow 10^{k+1} \times k \leq 10^{-4} \times 10^{2k}$

•  $\Rightarrow k \leq 10^{2k-k-1-4}$

•  $\Rightarrow k \leq 10^{k-5}$

•  $\Rightarrow 5 \leq 10^{5-5} = 5 \leq 1$  False

•  $\Rightarrow 6 \leq 10^{6-5} = 6 \leq 10$  True

• Hence, value 5 does not satisfy but value 6 satisfies.

• 6 is the smallest value of  $k$  for which package B will be preferred over A.

• Ans : (C) 6

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● **GATE CS 2011, Q37:** Which of the given options provides the increasing order of asymptotic complexity of functions  $f_1, f_2, f_3$  and  $f_4$ ?

●  $f_1(n) = 2^n$        $f_2(n) = n^{3/2}$        $f_3(n) = n \log_2 n$        $f_4(n) = n^{\log_2 n}$

- (A)  $f_3, f_2, f_4, f_1$       (B)  $f_3, f_2, f_1, f_4$       (C)  $f_2, f_3, f_1, f_4$       (D)  $f_2, f_3, f_4, f_1$

● Linearithmic:  $f_3(n) = n \log_2 n$

● Polynomial:  $f_2(n) = n^{3/2}, f_4(n) = n^{\log_2 n}$

● Exponential:  $f_1(n) = 2^n$

●  $n^{3/2} < n^{\log_2 n}$  ?

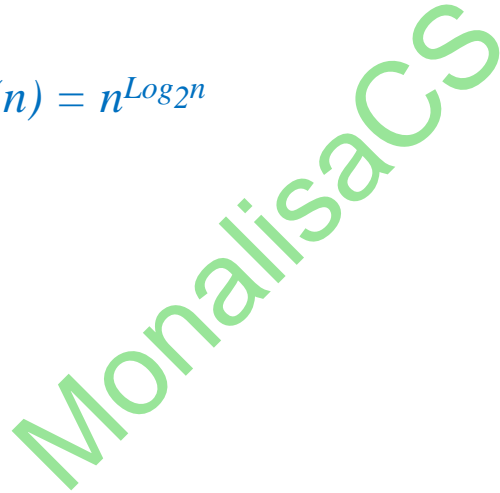
●  $3/2 < \log_2 n$  ?

●  $3/2 < \log_2 n$

●  $n^{3/2} < n^{\log_2 n}$

●  $n \log_2 n, n^{3/2}, n^{\log_2 n}, 2^n$

● Ans: (A)  $f_3, f_2, f_4, f_1$



● **GATE CS 2012 ,Q5:**The worst case running time to search for an element in a balanced binary search tree with  $n2^n$  elements is

- (A)  $\Theta(n \log n)$                       (B)  $\Theta(n2^n)$                       (C)  $\Theta(n)$                       (D)  $\Theta(\log n)$

● Running time to search for an element in a balanced binary search tree  $\log x$

●  $x$ =number of nodes/elements

●  $n2^n$ = number of nodes/elements

● Running time  $=\log (n2^n)$

●  $=\log n + \log (2^n)$

●  $=\log n + n$

●  $\Theta(n)$

● Ans: (C)  $\Theta(n)$

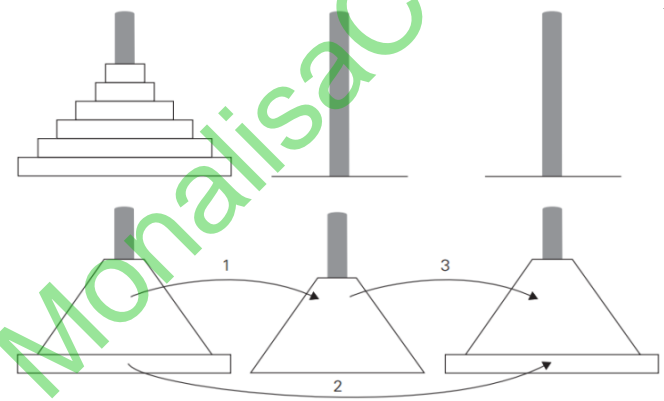
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● **GATE CS 2012,Q16:** The recurrence relation capturing the optimal execution time of the *Towers of Hanoi* problem with  $n$  discs is

- (A)  $T(n)=2T(n-2)+2$                       (B)  $T(n)=2T(n-1)+n$
- (C)  $T(n)=2T(n/2)+1$                       (D)  $T(n)=2T(n-1)+1$

● The recurrence relation of the *Towers of Hanoi* problem with  $n$  discs is :  
 $T(n)=2T(n-1)+1$

● **Ans : (D)  $T(n)=2T(n-1)+1$**



● **GATE CS 2012 ,Q18:** Let  $W(n)$  and  $A(n)$  denote respectively, the worst case and average case running time of an algorithm executed on an input of size  $n$ . Which of the following is **ALWAYS TRUE?**

- (A)  $A(n) = \Omega (W(n))$             (B)  $A(n) = \Theta (W(n))$
- (C)  $A(n) = O (W(n))$             (D)  $A(n) = o (W(n))$

●  $A(n) \leq W(n)$

●  $O = \leq , o = <$

● (A)  $A(n) = \Omega (W(n))$  or  $A(n) \geq W(n)$  wrong

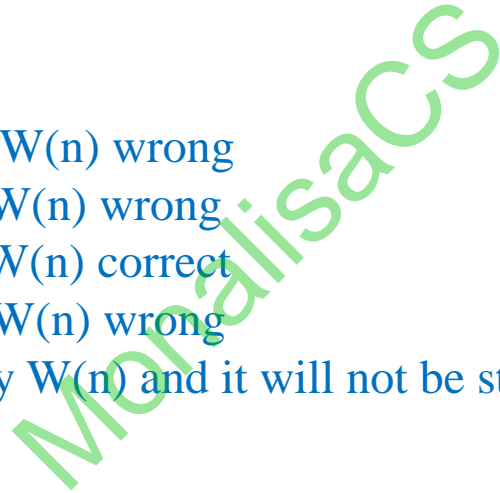
● (B)  $A(n) = \Theta (W(n))$  or  $A(n) = W(n)$  wrong

● (C)  $A(n) = O (W(n))$  or  $A(n) \leq W(n)$  correct

● (D)  $A(n) = o (W(n))$  or  $A(n) < W(n)$  wrong

●  $A(n)$  would be upper bounded by  $W(n)$  and it will not be strict upper bound as it can be same.

● **Ans : (C)  $A(n) = O (W(n))$**



● **GATE CS 2013,Q31:** Consider the following function:

```
● int unknown(int n){  
●   int i, j, k=0;  
●   for (i=n/2; i≤n; i++)  
●     for (j=2; j ≤ n; j=j*2)  
●       k = k + n/2;  
● return (k);  
● }
```

● The return value of the function is

- (A)  $\Theta(n^2)$
- (B)  $\Theta(n^2 \log n)$
- (C)  $\Theta(n^3)$
- (D)  $\Theta(n^3 \log n)$

● The outer loop run for  $n/2$  times and inner loop run for  $\log n$  times.

● Now in each iteration  $k$  is incremented by  $n/2$ .

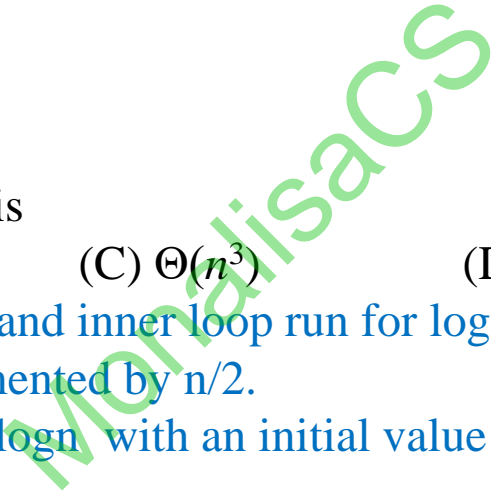
● So,  $k$  will be added  $(n/2) * (n/2) * \log n$  with an initial value of 0.

●  $k = (n^2/4) \log n : \Theta(n^2 \log n)$

● Time complexity =  $n/2 * \log n : \Theta(n \log n)$

● **Ans : (B)  $\Theta(n^2 \log n)$**

i	j	k
$n/2$	( $\log n$ times)	$(n/2) \log n$
$n/2 + 1$	( $\log n$ times)	$n \log n$
$n/2 + 2$	( $\log n$ times)	$3(n/2) \log n$
...	.....	.....
n	( $\log n$ times)	$(n/2) * (n/2) \log n$





● **GATE CS 2014 Set 2, Q13:** Which one of the following correctly determines the solution of the recurrence relation with  $T(1)=1$ ?

●  $T(n) = 2T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + \log n$

- (A)  $\Theta(n)$                       (B)  $\Theta(n \log n)$                       (C)  $\Theta(n^2)$                       (D)  $\Theta(\log n)$

● Apply Master's theorem,  $a=2, b=2, f(n)=\log n$

●  $n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_2 2} = n$

●  $\log n < n \Rightarrow f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a})$                       **case 1**

● Running Time  $\Theta(n^{\log_b a}) = \Theta(n)$

● Ans: (A)  $\Theta(n)$

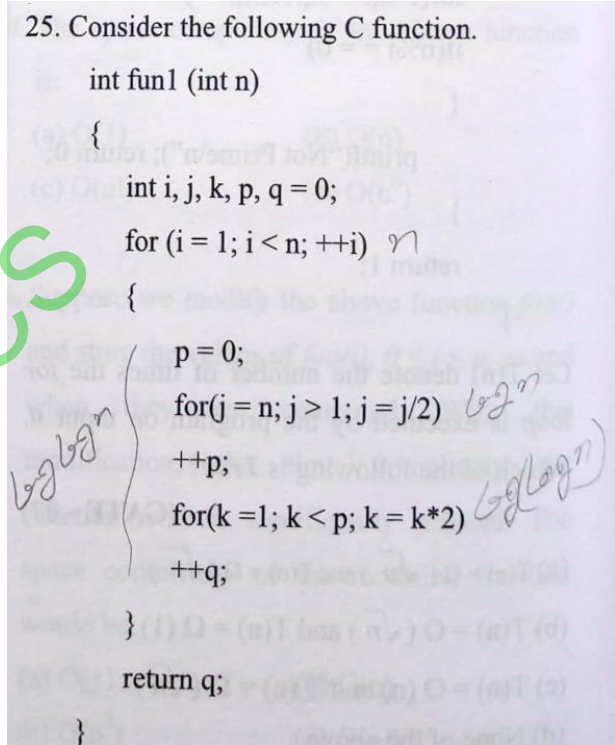
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● **GATE CS 2014 Set 3, Q37:** Suppose you want to move from 0 to 100 on the number line. In each step, you either move right by a unit distance or you take a *shortcut*. A shortcut is simply a pre-specified pair of integers  $i, j$  with  $i < j$ . Given a shortcut  $i, j$  if you are at position  $i$  on the number line, you may directly move to  $j$ . Suppose  $T(k)$  denotes the smallest number of steps needed to move from  $k$  to 100. Suppose further that there is at most 1 shortcut involving any number, and in particular, from 9 there is a shortcut to 15. Let  $y$  and  $z$  be such that  $T(9) = 1 + \min(T(y), T(z))$ . Then the value of the product  $yz$  is \_\_\_\_\_.

- $T(k)$  = smallest number of steps needed to move from  $k$  to 100.
- $T(9) = 1 + \min(T(y), T(z))$  i.e.,
- $T(9) = 1 + \min(\text{Steps from } y \text{ to } 100, \text{Steps from } z \text{ to } 100)$
- $y$  and  $z$  are two possible values that can be reached from 9.
- $9 \rightarrow 10, 9 \rightarrow 15$
- $y = 10, z = 15$
- $yz = 10 * 15 = 150$
- **Ans: 150**

**GATE CS 2015 Set 1, Q31:** Consider the following C function.

```
int fun1 (int n)
{
    int i, j, k, p, q = 0;
    for (i = 1; i < n; ++i)
    {
        p = 0;
        for (j = n; j > 1; j = j/2)
            ++p;
        for (k = 1; k < p; k = k*2)
            ++q;
    }
    return q;
}
```



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Which one of the following most closely approximates the return value of the function fun1?

- (A)  $n^3$
- (B)  $n (\log n)^2$
- (C)  $n \log n$
- (D)  $n \log(\log n)$

Ans D

● **GATE CS 2015 Set 3,Q4:** Consider the equality  $\sum_{i=0}^n i^3 = X$  and the following choices for X

- I.  $\Theta(n^4)$                       II.  $\Theta(n^5)$                       III.  $O(n^5)$                       IV.  $\Omega(n^3)$

● The equality above remains correct if X is replaced by

- (A) Only I                      (B) Only II                      (C) I or III or IV but not II                      (D) II or III or IV but not I

- $\sum_{i=0}^n i^3 \cong n^4$

- I.  $\Theta(n^4) \Rightarrow n^4 = n^4$ , True.
- II.  $\Theta(n^5) \Rightarrow n^4 \neq n^5$ , False.
- III.  $O(n^5) \Rightarrow n^4 \leq n^5$ , True.
- IV.  $\Omega(n^3) \Rightarrow n^4 \geq n^5$ , True.
- (A) Only I : Wrong
- (B) Only II : Wrong
- (C) I or III or IV but not II : Correct
- (D) II or III or IV but not I : Wrong

- **Ans : (C) I or III or IV but not II**



● **GATE CS 2015 Set 3, Q42:**

● Let  $f(n)=n$  and  $g(n)=n^{(1+\sin n)}$ , where  $n$  is a positive integer. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

● I.  $f(n)=O(g(n))$

II.  $f(n)=\Omega(g(n))$

● (A) Only I

(B) Only II

(C) Both I and II

(D) Neither I nor II

● The value of sine function varies from -1 to 1.

● For  $\sin n = -1$

●  $g(n)=n^{(1+\sin n)} = n^{(1-1)} = n^0=1$

●  $f(n)=\Omega(g(n))$

● I becomes false.

● For  $\sin = 1$

●  $g(n)=n^{(1+\sin n)} = n^{(1+1)} = n^2$

●  $f(n)=O(g(n))$

● II becomes false

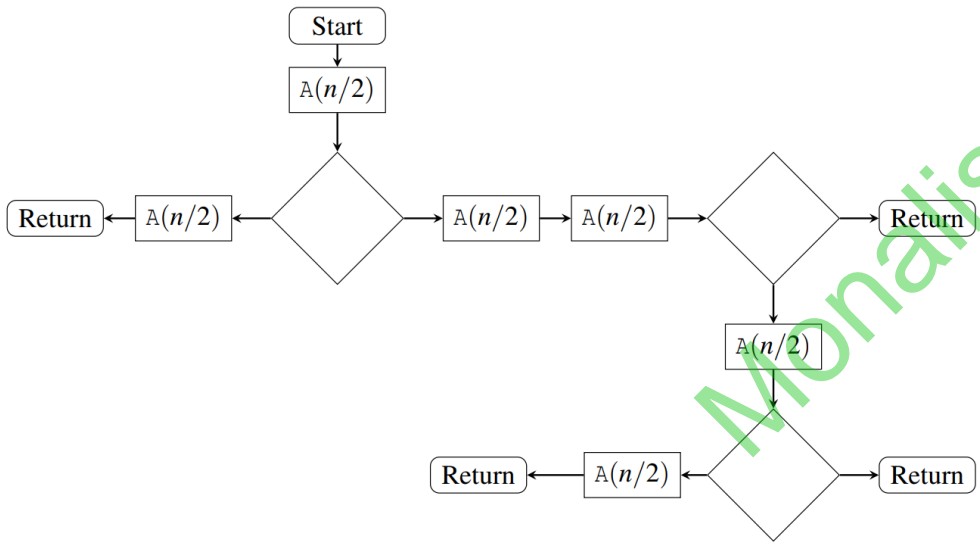
●  $f(n)=n$ ,  $g(n)=\{1 \dots n^2\}$

● **Ans : (D) Neither I nor II**

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● **GATE CS 2016 Set 2, Q39:** The given diagram shows the flowchart for a recursive function  $A(n)$ . Assume that all statements, except for the recursive calls, have  $O(1)$  time complexity. If the worst case time complexity of this function is  $O(n^\alpha)$ , then the least possible value (accurate up to two decimal positions) of  $\alpha$  is \_\_\_\_\_ .

● Flowchart for Recursive Function  $A(n)$



- Total function calls 6.
- Worst case = 5
- The Recurrence  $A(n) = 5A(n/2) + O(1)$
- Apply Master's theorem
- $a=5, b=2, f(n)=1,$
- $n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_2 5} = n^{2.3219280}$
- $f(n) < n^{\log_b a}$  So Case 1 ,
- Time complexity is  $O(n^{2.3219280})$
- $\therefore \alpha = 2.3219280$  Or 2.32
- Ans : 2.32

● **GATE CS 2017 Set 1,Q4:** Consider the following functions from positives integers to real numbers  $10, \sqrt{n}, n, \log_2 n, 100/n$ .

● The **CORRECT** arrangement of the above functions in increasing order of asymptotic complexity is:

- (A)  $\log_2 n, 100/n, 10, \sqrt{n}, n$
- (B)  $100/n, 10, \log_2 n, \sqrt{n}, n$
- (C)  $10, 100/n, \sqrt{n}, \log_2 n, n$
- (D)  $100/n, \log_2 n, 10, \sqrt{n}, n$

● **Constant , Logarithm ,Root, Linear**

●  $10, \log_2 n, \sqrt{n}, n$

●  $100/n < 10$

●  $100/n, 10, \log_2 n, \sqrt{n}, n$

● **Ans : (B)  $100/n, 10, \log_2 n, \sqrt{n}, n$**

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**GATE CS 2017 Set 2, Q3:** Match the algorithms with their time complexities:

**Algorithm**

**Time Complexity**

(P) Tower of Hanoi with  $n$  disks

(i)  $\Theta(n^2)$

(Q) Binary search given  $n$  sorted numbers

(ii)  $\Theta(n \log n)$

(R) Heap sort given  $n$  numbers at worst case

(iii)  $\Theta(2^n)$

(S) Addition of two  $n \times n$  matrices

(iv)  $\Theta(\log n)$

(A) P  $\rightarrow$  (iii), Q  $\rightarrow$  (iv), R  $\rightarrow$  (i), S  $\rightarrow$  (ii)

(B) P  $\rightarrow$  (iv), Q  $\rightarrow$  (iii), R  $\rightarrow$  (i), S  $\rightarrow$  (ii)

(C) P  $\rightarrow$  (iii), Q  $\rightarrow$  (iv), R  $\rightarrow$  (ii), S  $\rightarrow$  (i)

(D) P  $\rightarrow$  (iv), Q  $\rightarrow$  (iii), R  $\rightarrow$  (ii), S  $\rightarrow$  (i)

(P) Tower of Hanoi with  $n$  disks takes (iii)  $\Theta(2^n)$  time

(Q) Binary Search given  $n$  sorted numbers takes (iv)  $\Theta(\log n)$  time

(R) Heap sort given  $n$  numbers of the worst case takes (ii)  $\Theta(n \log n)$  time

(S) Addition of two  $n \times n$  matrices takes (i)  $\Theta(n^2)$  time

**Ans :** (C) P  $\rightarrow$  (iii), Q  $\rightarrow$  (iv), R  $\rightarrow$  (ii), S  $\rightarrow$  (i)



**GATE CS 2017 Set 2, Q30:** Consider the recurrence function

$T(n) = 2T(\sqrt{n}) + 1, n > 2$

$T(n) = 2, 0 < n \leq 2$

Then  $T(n)$  in terms of  $\Theta$  notation is

- (A)  $\Theta(\log \log n)$
- (B)  $\Theta(\log n)$
- (C)  $\Theta(\sqrt{n})$
- (D)  $\Theta(n)$

Using back substitution method

$T(n) = 2T(n^{1/2}) + 1$   $[T(n^{1/2}) = 2T(n^{1/2^2}) + 1]$

$T(n) = 2 \times [2T(n^{1/2^2}) + 1] + 1 = 2^2 T(n^{1/2^2}) + 2 + 1$   $[T(n^{1/2^2}) = 2T(n^{1/2^3}) + 1]$

$T(n) = 2^2 [2T(n^{1/2^3}) + 1] + 2 + 1 = 2^3 T(n^{1/2^3}) + 2^2 + 2 + 1$

.....

$T(n) = 2^i T(n^{1/2^i}) + 2^{i-1} + \dots + 2^2 + 2 + 1 = 2^i T(n^{1/2^i}) + 2^i - 1$  [General pattern]

The initial condition  $T(2) = 2, n^{1/2^i} = 2$

$1/2^i \log n = \log 2 = 1$  [Taking Log both side]

$2^i = \log n$

$\log n * T(2) + \log n - 1$  [After Substitution]

$= \log n * 2 + \log n - 1$

$= 3 \log n - 1 \Rightarrow \Theta(\log n)$

Ans (B)  $\Theta(\log n)$

**GATE CS 2017 Set 2, Q38:** Consider the following C function

```
int fun(int n) {
    int i, j;
    for(i=1; i≤n; i++) {
        for (j=1; j<n; j+=i) {
            printf("%d %d", i, j);
        }
    }
}
```

Time complexity of fun in terms of  $\Theta$  notation is

- (A)  $\Theta(n\sqrt{n})$       (B)  $\Theta(n^2)$       (C)  $\Theta(n\log n)$       (D)  $\Theta(n^2\log n)$

i	1	2	3	...	n
j	1,2,3,...(n time)	1,3,5.. (n/2 time)	1,4,7..(n/3 time)..		1(1 time)

for each i, j runs  $n/i$  time

$n + n/2 + n/3 + \dots + n/n = n(1 + 1/2 + 1/3 + \dots + 1/n) = n\log n$

$\Theta(n\log n)$

Ans : (C)  $\Theta(n\log n)$

● **GATE CS 2019, Q37:** There are  $n$  unsorted arrays:  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$ . Assume that  $n$  is odd. Each of  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$  contains  $n$  distinct elements. There are no common elements between any two arrays. The worst-case time complexity of computing the median of the medians of  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$  is

- (A)  $O(n)$             (B)  $O(n \log n)$             (C)  $O(n^2)$             (D)  $\Omega(n^2 \log n)$

● The median is the middle number in a sorted, ascending or descending, list of numbers

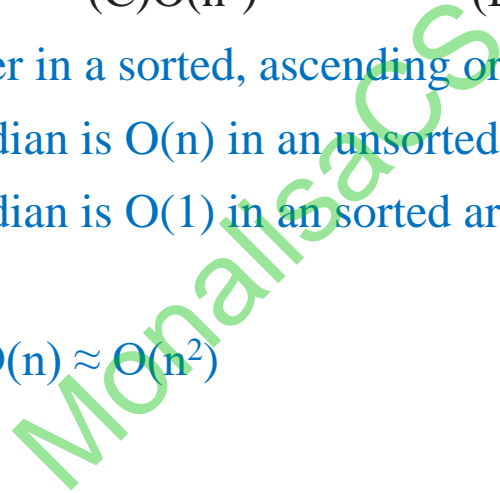
● The time complexity to find median is  $O(n)$  in an unsorted array.

● The time complexity to find median is  $O(1)$  in an sorted array

● Total time complexity is,

●  $= O(n) * O(n) + O(n) = O(n^2) + O(n) \approx O(n^2)$

● Ans: (C)  $O(n^2)$



• **GATE CS 2020, Q2:** For parameters  $a$  and  $b$ , both of which are  $\omega(1)$ ,  $T(n) = T(n^{1/a}) + 1$ , and  $T(b) = 1$ . Then  $T(n)$  is

- (A)  $\Theta(\log_a \log_b n)$     (B)  $\Theta(\log_{ab} n)$     (C)  $\Theta(\log_b \log_a n)$     (D)  $\Theta(\log_2 \log_2 n)$

- $T(n) = T(n^{1/a}) + 1$

- Using back substitution method

- $= T(n^{1/a^2}) + 1 + 1 = T(n^{1/a^2}) + 2$

$[T(n^{1/a}) = T(n^{1/a^2}) + 1]$

- $= T(n^{1/a^3}) + 1 + 2 = T(n^{1/a^3}) + 3$

$[T(n^{1/a^2}) = T(n^{1/a^3}) + 1]$

- .....

- $T(n) = T(n^{1/a^i}) + i$

[General pattern]

- Let  $n^{1/a^i} = b \Rightarrow 1/a^i \log n = \log_b b$

$[\log_b a = \frac{\log_c a}{\log_c b}]$

- $\Rightarrow a^i = \frac{\log n}{\log b} = \log_b n \Rightarrow i = \log_a \log_b n$

$[a^b = n \text{ then } \log_a n = b]$

- After substitution  $T(n) = T(b) + \log_a \log_b n$

- $= 1 + \log_a \log_b n = \Theta(\log_a \log_b n)$

- **Ans : (A)  $\Theta(\log_a \log_b n)$**



**GATE CS 2021 Set 1, Q3:** Consider the following three functions.

$$f_1 = 10^n \quad f_2 = n^{\log n} \quad f_3 = n^{\sqrt{n}}$$

Which one of the following options arranges the functions in the increasing order of asymptotic growth rate?

(A)  $f_3, f_2, f_1$       (B)  $f_2, f_1, f_3$       (C)  $f_1, f_2, f_3$       (D)  $f_2, f_3, f_1$

$f_1 = 10^n$  Exponential Function

$f_2 = n^{\log n}$  Polynomial Function

$f_3 = n^{\sqrt{n}}$  Polynomial Function

Polynomial < Exponential

$$f_2 < f_1, f_3 < f_1$$

Compare  $f_2$  &  $f_3$

$$\log n < \sqrt{n}$$

$$n^{\log n} < n^{\sqrt{n}} < 10^n$$

$$f_2 < f_3 < f_1$$

Ans : (D)  $f_2, f_3, f_1$

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**GATE CS 2021, Set 1, Q30:** Consider the following recurrence relation.

$T(n) = T(n/2) + T(2n/5) + 7n$  if  $n > 0$

$T(n) = 1$  if  $n = 0$

Which one of the following options is correct?

- (A)  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{5/2})$
- (B)  $T(n) = \Theta(n \log n)$
- (C)  $T(n) = \Theta(n)$
- (D)  $T(n) = \Theta((\log n)^{5/2})$

Assume  $n/2^k = 1 \Rightarrow 2^k = n \Rightarrow k = \log n$

Height =  $\log n$

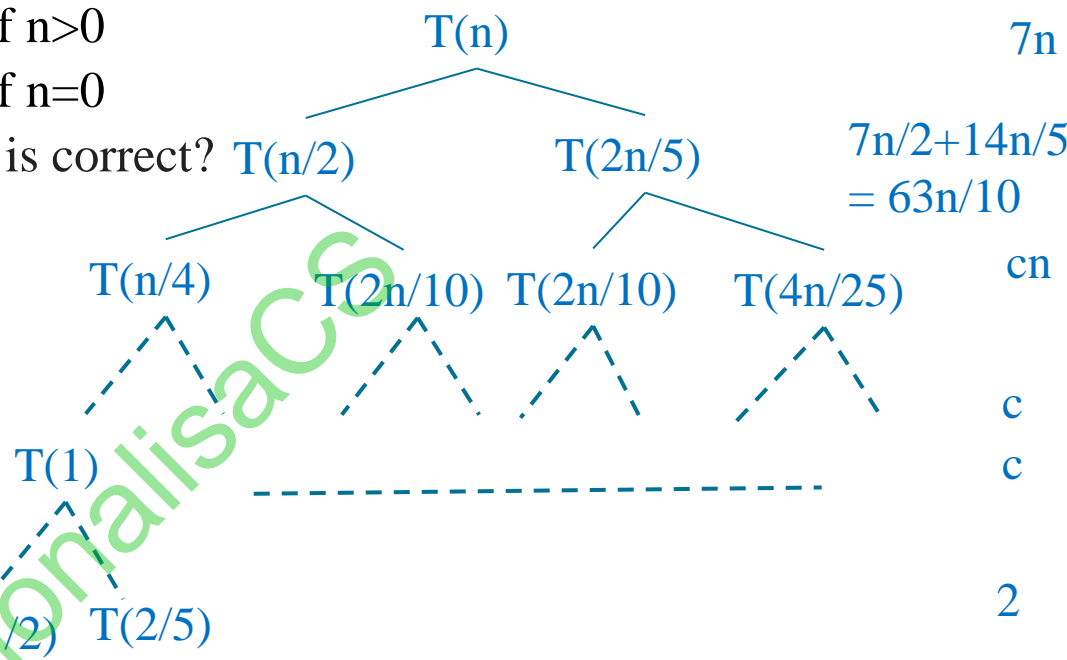
This is not a complete binary tree

so height is not  $\log n$  at every path.

At lower level time will be some constant .

$cn + cn + cn + \dots + cn$  (constant times) +  $c + c + c \dots = cn$

Ans : (C)  $T(n) = \Theta(n)$



**GATE CS 2021 Set 2, Q39:** For constants  $a \geq 1$  and  $b > 1$ , consider the following recurrence defined on the non-negative integers:  $T(n) = a \cdot T\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + f(n)$

Which one of the following options is correct about the recurrence  $T(n)$ ?

(A) If  $f(n)$  is  $n \log_2(n)$ , then  $T(n)$  is  $\Theta(n \log_2(n))$

(B) If  $f(n)$  is  $\frac{n}{\log_2(n)}$ , then  $T(n)$  is  $\Theta(\log_2(n))$

(C) If  $f(n)$  is  $O(n^{\log_b(a) - \epsilon})$  for some  $\epsilon > 0$ , then  $T(n)$  is  $\Theta(n^{\log_b(a)})$

(D) If  $f(n)$  is  $\Theta(n^{\log_b(a)})$ , then  $T(n)$  is  $\Theta(n^{\log_b(a)})$

(A) wrong depends on a,b value.

(B) wrong depends on a,b value.

(C) If  $f(n)$  is  $O(n^{\log_b(a) - \epsilon})$  for some  $\epsilon > 0$  case 1

$T(n)$  is  $\Theta(n^{\log_b(a)})$ , correct .

(D) If  $f(n)$  is  $\Theta(n^{\log_b(a)})$ , then  $T(n)$  is  $\Theta(n^{\log_b(a)} \log n)$

But its given  $\Theta(n^{\log_b(a)})$ , wrong.

**Ans :** (C) If  $f(n)$  is  $O(n^{\log_b(a) - \epsilon})$  for some  $\epsilon > 0$ , then  $T(n)$  is  $\Theta(n^{\log_b(a)})$

## GATE CS 2022 | Question: 1

Which one of the following statements is TRUE for all positive functions  $f(n)$ ?

(A)  $f(n^2) = \theta(f(n)^2)$ , when  $f(n)$  is a polynomial

(B)  $f(n^2) = o(f(n)^2)$

(C)  $f(n^2) = O(f(n)^2)$ , when  $f(n)$  is an exponential function

(D)  $f(n^2) = \Omega(f(n)^2)$

(A)  $f(n^2) = \theta(f(n)^2)$  means  $f(n^2) = (f(n)^2)$ , when  $f(n)$  is a polynomial function.

Let  $f(n) = n^3$ ,  $f(n^2) = (n^2)^3 = n^6$  and  $f(n)^2 = (n^3)^2 = n^6$

So  $f(n^2) = f(n)^2$  Hence True.

(B)  $f(n^2) = o(f(n)^2)$  means  $f(n^2) < (f(n)^2)$ . This depends on  $f(n)$  hence false.

(C)  $f(n^2) = O(f(n)^2)$  means  $f(n^2) \leq (f(n)^2)$ , when  $f(n)$  is an exponential function.

Let  $f(n) = 2^n$ ,  $f(n^2) = 2^{n^2}$  and  $f(n)^2 = (2^n)^2 = 2^n * 2^n = 2^{2n}$

So  $f(n^2) > f(n)^2$  Hence False.

(D)  $f(n^2) = \Omega(f(n)^2)$  means  $f(n^2) \geq (f(n)^2)$ . This depends on  $f(n)$  hence false.

Ans : (A)  $f(n^2) = \theta(f(n)^2)$ , when  $f(n)$  is a polynomial



### GATE CS 2022 | Question: 41

Consider the following recurrence:

$$f(1)=1;$$

$$f(2n)=2f(n)-1, \text{ for } n \geq 1;$$

$$f(2n+1)=2f(n)+1, \text{ for } n \geq 1.$$

Then, which of the following statements is/are TRUE?

(A)  $f(2^n-1)=2^n-1$

(B)  $f(2^n)=1$

(C)  $f(5 \cdot 2^n)=2^{n+1}+1$

(D)  $f(2^n+1)=2^n+1$

$f(1)=1$

$f(2)=f(2*1)=2*f(1)-1=1$

$f(3)=f(2*1+1)=2*f(1)+1=3$

$f(4)=f(2*2)=2*f(2)-1=1$

$f(5)=f(2*2+1)=2*f(2)+1=3$

$f(6)=f(2*3)=2*f(3)-1=5$

$f(7)=f(2*3+1)=2*f(3)+1=7$

$f(8)=f(2*4)=2*f(4)-1=1$

$f(9)=f(2*4+1)=2*f(4)+1=3$

$f(10)=f(2*5)=2*f(5)-1=5$

A) for  $n=2, f(2^2-1)=f(3)=2^2-1=3,$

for  $n=3, f(2^3-1)=f(7)=2^3-1=7$

True

B) for  $n=2, f(2^2)=f(4)=1,$

for  $n=3, f(2^3)=f(8)=1$

True

C) for  $n=0, f(5 \cdot 2^0)=f(5)=2^{0+1}+1=3,$

for  $n=1, f(5 \cdot 2^1)=f(10)=2^{1+1}+1=5$

True

D) for  $n=0, f(2^0+1)=f(2)=2^0+1=2$

for  $n=2, f(2^2+1)=f(5)=2^2+1=5$

False

Ans : A,B,C

# GATE CS 2022 | Question: 41

Consider the following recurrence:

$$f(1)=1; \quad f(2n)=2f(n)-1, \text{ for } n \geq 1; \quad f(2n+1)=2f(n)+1, \text{ for } n \geq 1.$$

Then, which of the following statements is/are TRUE?

- (A)  $f(2^n-1)=2^n-1$
- (B)  $f(2^n)=1$
- (C)  $f(5 \cdot 2^n)=2^{n+1}+1$
- (D)  $f(2^{n+1})=2^n+1$

A)  $f(2^n-1)=f(2 \cdot 2^{n-1}-2+1)=f(2(2^{n-1}-1)+1)=2f(2^{n-1}-1)+1$  [substitute  $f(2^{n-1}-1)=2f(2^{n-2}-1)+1$ ]

$2 \cdot \{2f(2^{n-2}-1)+1\}+1=2^2f(2^{n-2}-1)+2+1$

$\dots 2^k f(2^{n-k}-1)+2^{(k-1)}+\dots+2+1=2^k f(2^{n-k}-1)+2^k-1$  [Let  $2^{n-k}-1=1, 2^{n-k}=2, n-k=1, k=n-1$ ]

$2^{n-1}f(1)+2^{n-1}-1=2^n-1$  True

B)  $f(2^n)=f(2 \cdot 2^{n-1})=2f(2^{n-1})-1$  [substitute  $f(2^{n-1})=2f(2^{n-2})-1$ ]

$2\{2f(2^{n-2})-1\}-1=2^2f(2^{n-2})-2-1$

$\dots 2^k f(2^{n-k})-2^{k-1}-\dots-2-1=2^k f(2^{n-k})-\{2^k-1\}$  [Let  $n-k=0, n=k$ ]

$2^n f(2^0)-\{2^n-1\}=2^n-2^n+1=1$  True

C)  $f(5 \cdot 2^n)=f(2 \cdot 5 \cdot 2^{n-1})=2f(5 \cdot 2^{n-1})-1$  [substitute  $f(5 \cdot 2^{n-1})=2f(5 \cdot 2^{n-2})-1$ ]

$2\{2f(5 \cdot 2^{n-2})-1\}-1=2^2f(5 \cdot 2^{n-2})-2-1$

$\dots 2^k f(5 \cdot 2^{n-k})-2^{k-1}-\dots-2-1=2^k f(5 \cdot 2^{n-k})-(2^k-1)$  [Let  $n-k=0, k=n, f(5)=3$ ]

$2^n f(5 \cdot 2^0)-(2^n-1)=3 \cdot 2^n-2^n+1=2 \cdot 2^n+1=2^{n+1}+1$  True

D)  $f(2^{n+1})=f(2 \cdot 2^n+1)=2f(2^n)+1$  [substitute  $f(2^n)=2f(2^{n-1})-1$ ]

$2 \cdot \{2f(2^{n-1})-1\}+1=2^2f(2^{n-1})-2+1=2^3f(2^{n-2})-2^2-2+1$

$2^k f(2^{n-k})-2^{k-1}-\dots-2^2-2+1$

$2^n-2^{n-1}-\dots-2^2-2+1=2^{n+1}-(2^n-2)=3$  [Let  $n-k=0, k=n$ ]

Ans : A,B,C

## GATE CS 2023 | Question: 19

Let  $f$  and  $g$  be functions of natural numbers given by  $f(n) = n$  and  $g(n) = n^2$ . Which of the following statements is/are TRUE?

(A)  $f \in O(g)$       (B)  $f \in \Omega(g)$       (C)  $f \in o(g)$       (D)  $f \in \theta(g)$

(A)  $f \in O(g) \Rightarrow n \leq C n^2$       True

(B)  $f \in \Omega(g) \Rightarrow n \geq C n^2$       False

(C)  $f \in o(g) \Rightarrow n < C n^2$       True

(D)  $f \in \theta(g) \Rightarrow n = C n^2$       False

Ans : **A,C**

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## GATE CS 2023 | Question: 44

Consider functions **Function\_1** and **Function\_2** expressed in pseudocode as follows:

<p><b>Function_1</b></p> <pre>while n &gt; 1 do   for i = 1 to n do     x = x + 1;   end for   n = ⌊n/2⌋; end while</pre>	<p><b>Function_2</b></p> <pre>for i = 1 to 100 * n   do     x = x + 1;   end for</pre>
---	--

Let  $f_1(n)$  and  $f_2(n)$  denote the number of times the statement “ $x = x + 1$ ” is executed in **Function 1** and **Function 2**, respectively. Which of the following statements is/are TRUE?

- (A)  $f_1(n) \in \theta(f_2(n))$       (B)  $f_1(n) \in o(f_2(n))$
- (C)  $f_1(n) \in w(f_2(n))$       (D)  $f_1(n) \in O(n)$

**Function\_1** : Variable n becomes half for every termination of for loop

$$f_1(n) = n + \frac{n}{2} + \frac{n}{2^2} + \dots = n(1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2^2} + \dots) = \theta(n)$$

**Function\_2**

$$f_2(n) = n \times 100 = \theta(n)$$

**Ans** : (A)  $f_1(n) \in \theta(f_2(n))$ , (D)  $f_1(n) \in O(n)$

## GATE DA 2024 | Question: 29

Consider the function **computeS** ( $X$ ) whose pseudocode is given below:

**computeS** ( $X$ )

$S[1] \leftarrow 1$

for  $i \leftarrow 2$  to  $length(X)$

$S[i] \leftarrow 1$

    if  $X[i - 1] \leq X[i]$

$S[i] \leftarrow S[i] + S[i - 1]$

    end if

end for

return  $S$

Which **ONE** of the following values is returned by the function **computeS**( $X$ ) for  $X = [6, 3, 5, 4, 10]$ ?

(A) [1, 1, 2, 3, 4]

(B) [1, 1, 2, 3, 3]

(C) [1, 1, 2, 1, 2]

(D) [1, 1, 2, 1, 5]

6	3	5	4	10
---	---	---	---	----

1      2      3      4      5

•  $S[1]=1$

• for  $i=2$ ,  $S[2]=1$

• If  $X[1] \leq X[2]$   $6 \leq 3$  no, end

• for  $i=3$ ,  $S[3]=1$

• If  $X[2] \leq X[3]$   $3 \leq 5$  yes

•  $S[3]=1+1=2$  end

• for  $i=4$ ,  $S[4]=1$

• If  $X[3] \leq X[4]$   $5 \leq 4$  no, end

• for  $i=5$ ,  $S[5]=1$

• If  $X[4] \leq X[5]$   $4 \leq 10$  yes

•  $S[5]=1+1=2$  end

• Ans : (C) [1, 1, 2, 1, 2]

## GATE CS 2024 | Set 1 | Question: 7

Given an integer array of size  $N$ , we want to check if the array is sorted (in either ascending or descending order). An algorithm solves this problem by making a single pass through the array and comparing each element of the array only with its adjacent elements. The worst-case time complexity of this algorithm is

- (A) both  $O(N)$  and  $\Omega(N)$     (B)  $O(N)$  but not  $\Omega(N)$
- (C)  $\Omega(N)$  but not  $O(N)$     (D) neither  $O(N)$  nor  $\Omega(N)$

We need to check whether the array is sorted or not, and it does so by making a single pass through the array.

In worst case, the algorithm has to traverse the whole array.

and array traversal will take  $O(n)$  time.

**Ans :** (A) both  $O(N)$  and  $\Omega(N)$

# GATE CS 2024 | Set 1 | Question: 32

Consider the following recurrence relation:

$$T(n) = \{\sqrt{n}T(\sqrt{n}) + n \text{ for } n \geq 1, 1 \text{ for } n = 1.$$

Which one of the following options is CORRECT?

- (A)  $T(n) = \Theta(n \log \log n)$
- (B)  $T(n) = \Theta(n \log n)$
- (C)  $T(n) = \Theta(n^2 \log n)$
- (D)  $T(n) = \Theta(n^2 \log \log n)$

## Method of backward substitutions.

$$\begin{aligned}
 T(n) &= \sqrt{n} T(\sqrt{n}) + n \\
 &= n^{1/2} * \{n^{1/2^2} T(n^{1/2^2}) + n^{1/2}\} + n = n^{3/4} T(n^{1/2^2}) + 2n \quad [\text{substitute } T(n^{1/2}) = n^{1/2^2} T(n^{1/2^2}) + n^{1/2}] \\
 &= n^{1-1/2^2} T(n^{1/2^2}) + 2n
 \end{aligned}$$

.....

General formula for the pattern:  $n^{1-1/2^i} T(n^{1/2^i}) + i*n = n/n^{1/2^i} T(n^{1/2^i}) + i*n$

The initial condition  $T(1)=1, n^{1/2^i}=1$  [ $\log_b a = \frac{1}{\log_a b}$ ]

- $1/2^i = \log_n 1 = 1/\log_1 n \Rightarrow 2^i = \log n$
- $i = \log \log n$
- $n/1 * T(1) + \log \log n * n = n + n \log \log n$

**$O(n \log \log n)$**

Ans : (A)  $T(n) = \Theta(n \log \log n)$

## GATE CS 2024 | Set 2 | Question: 5

Let  $T(n)$  be the recurrence relation defined as follows:

$T(0) = 1, T(1) = 2$ , and

$T(n) = 5T(n - 1) - 6T(n - 2)$  for  $n \geq 2$

Which one of the following statements is TRUE?

(A)  $T(n) = \Theta(2^n)$

(B)  $T(n) = \Theta(n2^n)$

(C)  $T(n) = \Theta(3^n)$

(D)  $T(n) = \Theta(n3^n)$

Method of forward Substitution

$T(0) = 1$

$T(1) = 2$

$T(2) = 5T(1) - 6T(0) = 5*2 - 6*1 = 4 = 2^2$

$T(3) = 5T(2) - 6T(1) = 5*4 - 6*2 = 8 = 2^3$

.....

$T(n) = 2^n$

Ans : (A)  $T(n) = \Theta(2^n)$

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